



Indiana Professional Standards Board

Frank L. O'Bannon, Governor
Marie Theobald, Ed.D. Executive Director

101 W. Ohio Street-Suite 300
Indianapolis, IN 46204-1953
Telephone: (317) 232-9010
Toll free: (866) 542-3672
Fax: (317) 232-9023
www.in.gov/psb

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Executive Committee, Indiana Professional Standards Board

FROM: Marilyn Metzler, Chair, Beginning Teacher Assessment Committee (BTAC)

DATE: September 17, 2003

RE: Pilot Program for the Portfolio Assessment for Beginning Teachers

At its June 26, 2003 meeting the Beginning Teacher Assessment Committee reviewed the status of the portfolio assessment for beginning teachers and the evaluation of the training for scorers conducted during the second week of June. Prior training had relied heavily on the handbooks and materials provided through our collaboration with Connecticut. Over the last two years, the Indiana handbooks have been substantially revised so that they align with Indiana standards and also align across content areas. The combination of Connecticut and Indiana materials was confusing to the participants. Additionally, a range of portfolios from Indiana teachers is not available either as models for training or to be used as benchmarks for training of scorers.

The committee discussed several options in order to obtain portfolios that might provide a range of scores, reflect Indiana standards, and be aligned with the current *Indiana Handbooks for Beginning Teachers*. As part of the approved mentor training programs, mentors are required to complete portions of the portfolio using the handbook directions. BTAC members felt that teachers in these programs, as well as previous participants might submit complete portfolios if an incentive were provided. The committee agreed to ask the board to consider a pilot project for the 2003-2004 academic year only, during which time currently licensed teachers would produce and submit complete portfolios using the current versions of the handbook. BTAC recommended that upon successfully meeting all pilot project requirements, participants could renew their currently active licenses. Additionally, BTAC recommended that this pilot program be offered to individuals in their 2nd, 3rd, or 4th years under a currently active license. By involving experienced teachers in the pilot, it was thought that a greater range of performances would be obtained.

Recommendation:

BTAC proposes that the Board approve a one year pilot program of the Indiana portfolio assessment using the following guidelines.

- 1) Interested participants, who must be currently licensed Indiana teachers, would have to commit to participation by October 15, 2003.

- 2) Complete portfolio assessment would have to be received by IPSB no later than March 1, 2004.
- 3) Participants must agree to have their portfolio materials used for training purposes by IPSB.
- 4) Participation would be limited to 15 teachers per content area.
- 5) Upon receipt of complete portfolio assessment, the participant be allowed to renew a currently active Indiana standard teaching license.

Executive Committee Action:

Agenda Item V. G. 2.
September 17, 2003
Page 2